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Session 1- Supporting paper

**OVERVIEW OF THE EFFORTS UNDERWAY IN THE UNECE REGION TO MEASURE
EMERGING FORMS OF FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS**

Paper prepared by Eurostat and UNECE

BACKGROUND

1. Together with individuals, households are the main statistical units used for the collection, dissemination and analysis of statistical information on social, demographic and economic issues. Studies for example on living arrangements, income and expenditures patterns, poverty, and housing use the households as the main units of analysis.
2. But families and households are not important only as statistical units, but also as an object of analysis per se since their formation and structure determines important choices for the individuals and the society. Most basic decisions women and men make during their lives depend on with whom (if anyone) they live, whether and at what age they marry, whether or not they have children and when. The types of living arrangements persons have affect their fertility, the structure of a society where they live and ultimately the needs for services. It is important therefore that statistics adequately count and monitor the size, structure and formation of households and families.
3. Over the past three decades significant changes have taken place in the size and composition of households and families throughout the ECE region. This is due to falling fertility, rising number of divorces, migration, increased life expectancy with many elderly living by themselves, and the fact that there is an increase in the proportion of one-person households, in the proportion of unmarried couples cohabiting, lone parents and reconstituted families. There are also other forms of families and households that have emerged in the last decades including people who “live-apart-together”,

people in same-sex partnerships, reconstituted families and children of divorced parents who share their living with both parents. This gives new challenges in defining and collecting statistics on families and households and it identifies issues that the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) is discussing since 2003.

4. In October 2003 the Bureau of the CES established a Task Force on families and households with the objective of:

- i. Evaluating household and family issues encountered by countries in their 2000 population censuses
- ii. Evaluating household and family issues encountered by countries in major European surveys such as EU-SILC and LFSs
- iii. Developing and proposing improved recommendations on families and households for inclusion in the new set of ECE-Eurostat recommendations for the 2010 round of population censuses in the ECE region
- iv. Developing recommendations on families and households for large-scale household surveys

5. Within the process of updating the UNECE Recommendations for Population and Housing Censuses the task force carried out tasks 1 and 3. For task 2 and 4, the necessary financial resources have not yet been identified.

6. The initial members of the task force were representatives from Norway (chair), Armenia, Australia, Canada, Finland, France, Hungary, United Kingdom, United States, the CIS Statistical Committee, Eurostat and UNECE. Other countries joined in the preparation of the draft for the new census recommendations: Czech Republic, Latvia, Netherlands, Poland, Russian Federation, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovenia, Turkey.

1. MEASUREMENT OF FAMILIES AND HOUSEHOLDS IN THE POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS

1.1 Main features of the UNECE Recommendations for the 2000 Censuses of Population and Housing in the field of households and families

7. The Recommendations used in the ECE region for the 2000 round of population and housing censuses include detailed definitions and classifications concerning families and households. The recommendations distinguish private and institutional households and within the private households, it recommends the use of the housekeeping unit concept, described as follows:

- a one-person household, i.e. a person who lives alone in a separate housing unit or who occupies, as a lodger, a separate room (or rooms) of a housing unit but does not join with any of the other occupants of the housing unit to form part of a multi-person household as defined below; or
- a multi-person household, i.e. a group of two or more persons who combine to occupy the whole or part of a housing unit and to provide themselves with food and possibly other

essentials for living. Members of the group may pool their incomes to a greater or lesser extent.

8. The recommendations also acknowledge that some countries may use the different concept of household-dwelling, defined as the aggregated number of persons occupying a housing unit, but it recommends that for these countries the total number of households based on the housekeeping unit concept be estimated in the census report.

9. The Recommendations include also the concept of **family nucleus** defined as “*two or more persons within a private or institutional household who are related as husband and wife, as cohabiting partners, or as parent and child*”. The definition of child includes children “who have no partner and no child and have usual residence in the household of at least one parent. Children also includes stepchildren and adopted children, but not foster children”. Among the different types of families the Recommendations identify reconstituted families and extended families. They also stress that **couple** should include both “married couples and couples who report that they are living in consensual unions”. However, there are no instructions on how to treat couples of the same-sex.

1.2. The definition of household and family used in the 2000 census round

10. Examining the household definition used in 24 ECE countries in the 2000 round of census, it can be noted that the great majority (15 countries) used the housekeeping concept. As it can be seen in Appendix 1, the housekeeping definitions are not all standardized, but they all include the main ideas of common housekeeping arrangements and/or share of income. The relationship among the members of the households is not a necessary condition in the definition of household with the exception of Italy where one criterion was added on “being bound by marriage, kinship, affinity, adoption, guardianship or by affective ties”. In some of the South-European countries (Italy and Portugal), there is no distinction between the words “family” and “household” and the terminology used for household is “*familia classica*” (Portugal) or “*simply “famiglia*” (Italy). While for family the terminology used is “*nucleo familiar*” (Portugal) or “*nucleo famigliare*” (Italy).

11. The trend of using the housekeeping concept in the 2000 Round of censuses was also confirmed by the results of a questionnaire that UNECE sent to countries to review the practices in their last census. About two third of the 45 responding countries declared the use of the housekeeping concept. While among the 15 countries that reported the use of the household-dwelling concept, only three declared that they could provide household data based on the housekeeping concept. Among the countries that used the household-dwelling concept, the large majority carried out a register-based census¹.

¹ “*Families and Households in the 2000 round of censuses in ECE member countries*”, paper prepared by the ECE-Eurostat Task Force on Families and Households for the Joint UNECE-Eurostat Work Session on Population Censuses, Geneva 23-25 November 2004.

12. The general definition given of family nucleus in the UNECE Recommendations was also followed by the majority of the countries (38 out of 46). Two countries (Canada and UK) added in the definition of family those households where grandparent(s) and grandchild(ren) live together without the grandchild(ren) parents. While the U.S. restricted the definition of family to two or more persons related by birth, by marriage, or by adoption to the householder. Almost all countries (42 out of 46) produced or would be able to produce data on the “traditional” type of family, husband-wife family with or without children. The number goes down to 37 for countries that produced or would be able to produce data for cohabiting couple families (with or without children)².

13. It is not clear how many countries identified households with same-sex partners. Canada is the only country in the region that introduced in the census the category “common-law partner (same - sex)” as relationship to the reference person to properly identify same-sex partnerships.

1.3 Main changes proposed in the Recommendations for the 2010 Census Round

14. With the view of improving the census recommendations to better reflect emerging forms of families and households, the task force on families and households proposed the following changes for the 2010 census round:

Definition of family nucleus

15. The new draft recommendations are open to the expansion of the definition of family nucleus to include “*skip generation households*”, which are households consisting of grandparent(s) and one or more grandchild(dren) without any parent of those grandchildren.

Homeless

16. For the first time the draft recommendations include the homeless as another form of household, in addition to private and institutional households. The current draft acknowledges that the definition of the homeless can vary from country to country, but it also distinguishes two categories or degrees of homelessness:

- i. Primary homelessness (or rooflessness). This category includes persons living in the streets without a shelter that would fall within the scope of living quarters.
- ii. Secondary homelessness which include the following groups:
 - a. Persons with no place of usual residence who move frequently between various types of accommodations (including dwellings, shelters or other living quarters).
 - b. Persons usually resident in long-term (also called “transitional”) shelters or similar collective institutions for the homeless.

² Same as 1.

Identification of different types of families and households

17. With the higher complexity of relationships that exist in the households and the need to identifying them in order to distinguish the different types of families and households, the new draft Recommendations includes a revised section on the identification of family type and in particular reconstituted families. In the past the selection of one reference person in the household to whom all other members report or designate their relationship was the recommended method to collect information on types of households and families. In the new draft, the **household relationship matrix** method is presented as the method that can best identify the different (and most complex) types of households and families. This method consists in a table where each person in private households reports his/her relationship to all the members listed before him/her.

Same-sex partnerships

18. For countries that would like to collect data on same-sex partnerships in the census, the draft recommendations include for the first time a specific category for same-sex partners (distinct from the category for opposite-sex partners) to the relationship to the reference person.

19. With the view of facilitating the identification of different households and families, the draft recommendations include the following classification of persons living in a private household by relationship to the household's reference person (where the one-digit level is suggested as basic and the two-digit level as optional):

- i. Reference person
- ii. Husband or wife
- iii. Reference person's partner in consensual union (cohabiting partner)
 - iii.a. Opposite-sex cohabiting partner
 - iii.b. Same-sex cohabiting partner
- iv. Child of reference person and/or of husband/wife/cohabiting partner
 - iv.a. Child of reference person only
 - iv.b. Child of reference person's husband/wife/cohabiting partner
 - iv.c. Child of both
- v. Husband/wife or cohabiting partner of child of reference person
- vi. 6.0 Father or mother of reference person, of husband/wife, or of cohabiting partner of reference person
- vii. Other relative of reference person, of husband/wife, or of cohabiting partner of reference person
- viii. Non-relative of reference person of the household
 - viii.a. Foster child
 - viii.b. Boarder
 - viii.c. Domestic servant
 - viii.d. Other

2. HOUSEHOLD CONCEPTS USED IN MAJOR EUROSTAT HOUSEHOLD SURVEYS

2.1 Introduction

20. This overview covers the following Eurostat statistics:

- The Community Labour Force Survey
- European Community Household Panel Survey (ECHP) and Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC), and
- Household Budget Surveys (HBS)

21. These statistics either make use of a Eurostat reference definition for a household or allow the use of national household concepts. The ECHP had a reference concept based on a gentlemen's agreement and EU-SILC has a reference definition given as a regulation. The Community Labour Force Survey and the Household Budget Survey use the national concepts.

22. Households in general can be divided into 'private households' and 'institutional' or 'collective' households. Eurostat statistics are mostly restricted to private households.

23. There are two basic concepts of a private household. One is the 'housekeeping concept', which usually means that a household is formed of persons living in the same living quarters or dwelling and sharing living expenses (or budget). The other is the 'household-dwelling' concept, which means that a household is formed of persons living in the same dwelling, regardless of their economic relationships. The surveys considered here use the housekeeping concept (even if there are a few exceptions).

24. The practical delineation of the usual resident population (treatment of certain population groups such as students staying away from home during term time, conscripts, long term visitors etc.) is also important from the point of view of the comparability of household data in different statistical systems.

2.2 Community Labour Force Survey (LFS)

25. The Community LFS is a household survey which provides data on the population (persons living in private households), the working population and the non-national population. The main emphasis is on employment, unemployment and inactivity. The information available on these topics includes patterns of work, working time, occupations, economic activities, length of unemployment and methods of job search. Sex and age are the basic background variables. A detailed presentation of the information provided by the survey is given in Commission Regulation (EC) No 1575/2000, which lays down the rules for applying Council Regulation (EC) No 577/98 on the organisation of a labour force sample survey in the Community. The national statistical institutes are responsible for selecting the sample, preparing the questionnaires, conducting the direct interviews with households and

forwarding the results to Eurostat in accordance with the standard coding scheme. Eurostat is responsible for processing and disseminating the information forwarded by the national institutes.

26. The recommended household concept is the 'housekeeping' concept, i.e. persons living in the same dwelling and sharing expenses. However, the LFS uses national concepts, which may differ from this. For example, France, Spain and Switzerland use the household-dwelling concept. The national definitions for EU Member States, EFTA countries and Candidate Countries are presented in table 1.

Table 1: National household concepts used in the EU Labour Force Survey

<i>Country</i>	
<i>BELGIUM</i>	The household is the simple or collective unit comprising either one person living alone or two or more persons, whether or not of the same family, who usually occupy the same dwelling and live there communally.
<i>DENMARK</i>	A household consists of all persons living permanently in the dwelling and who usually share a meal at least once daily. Persons with permanent residence in the dwelling but temporarily away from home on vacation or education are included. Children in shared custody are included in the household where they spend most of the time.
<i>GERMANY</i>	A private household comprises either a person living alone or two or more persons, irrespective of their relationship. The members of a private household are characterised by the same dwelling and common housekeeping. National service personnel and students are included in their parents' households.
<i>GREECE</i>	It covers only private households. The resident population comprises persons who usually reside on Greek territory and who spend most days and nights there. No definition of household.
<i>SPAIN</i>	The household concept used is that of the 'dwelling household' (all people living in the dwelling are interviewed).
<i>FRANCE</i>	The household concept used is that of the 'dwelling household': a household means all persons living in the same dwelling. It may consist of a single person, or of two families living in the same dwelling.
<i>IRELAND</i>	The private household is made up either of persons living alone or of two or more persons, whether or not of the same family, usually occupying the same dwelling and sharing a joint budget.
<i>ITALY</i>	The private household is made up either of persons living alone or of two or more persons, whether or not of the same family, usually occupying the same dwelling and sharing a joint budget.

LUXEMBOURG	The household is defined as persons living in the same dwelling, other than subtenants and military personnel returning home at the weekend.
THE NETHERLANDS	The private household comprises either persons living alone or two or more persons, whether or not they are of the same family, who usually occupy the same dwelling and share a joint budget.
AUSTRIA	A private household is made up either of persons living alone or of 2 or more persons, whether or not of the same family, who usually occupy the same dwelling and share a common budget.
PORTUGAL	A private household is made up either of persons living alone or of 2 or more persons, whether or not they are of the same family, who usually occupy the same dwelling and share a common budget.
FINLAND	A household consists of persons who live, share meals or otherwise use their income together.
SWEDEN	A household is either a person that lives alone or persons that live together and share household expenses.
UNITED KINGDOM	A private household comprises one or more persons whose main residence is the same dwelling and/or who share at least one meal per day. Students aged 16 + who live in a collective household but who return to their parents for the holidays are also regarded as being a member of their parents' household.
ICELAND	The definition of private household used is the one of housekeeping unit.
NORWAY	The definition of household used is concept of housekeeping unit, but only to cover the structure of the household (household members who don't belong to the family unit are not asked any questions about their labour market participation).
SWITZERLAND	A household comprises either a person living alone or two or more persons, whether or not they are of the same family, who usually occupy the same dwelling (dwelling concept).
CZECH REPUBLIC	The target population comprises all persons living usually in the households of the selected dwellings. The temporarily absent persons (for not more than 1 year) and domestic servants are included. People in student or worker's homes are included if satisfying this rule. Lodgers are considered as independent budget keeping households. People living abroad are excluded. Conscripts are surveyed for demographic background only.
ESTONIA	The household is made up either of persons living alone or of two or more persons who share a household budget and usually occupy the same dwelling.
CYPRUS	The private household is made up either of persons living alone or of two or more persons, whether or not of the same family, usually occupying the same dwelling and sharing a joint budget.

<i>HUNGARY</i>	Persons living in the same dwelling and having consumption in common. Included are household members temporarily absent and persons residing abroad if they have consumption in common with the surveyed household.
<i>MALTA</i>	A household is defined as one or more persons who live together and share expenses. A person who is abroad during the reference week and who visits Malta on a regular basis i.e. at least 2 times a year, is considered to be part of the household. Children or any other members who are living in another dwelling or institution are excluded.
<i>LATVIA</i>	A household is defined as a group of two or more persons living together in a house or a part of a house and share expenses for common living and eating. The person stating that he/she does not belong to any household and that he/she lives on his/her own budget is considered as a single person household.
<i>LITHUANIA</i>	A private household comprises either persons living alone or two or more persons, whether they are of the same family or not, who usually occupy the same dwelling and share a common budget.
<i>POLAND</i>	The household is a group of relatives or other people living together and maintaining a joint unit. Persons not belonging to any household and living and managing the household all by themselves are considered as single person households.
<i>SLOVENIA</i>	A household is a single person or a group of persons, who live together and share expenses related to common living and eating.
<i>SLOVAKIA</i>	A household is a group of persons sharing common accommodation and house keeping. Persons living on their own constitute one-person households.
<i>BULGARIA</i>	A household is defined as a group of two or more people living together in a house or a part of a house and having common budget. The person stating that they do not belong to any household and that they live on their own budget is considered as a single person household.
<i>ROMANIA</i>	A household is defined as a group of two or more persons, usually living together, being generally relatives, managing the household in common, entirely or partly participating in income formation and spending. The person stating that he or she does not belong to any household, that he or she lives and manages the household all by him or herself is considered as a single person household.
<i>TURKEY</i>	A household is one person or group of persons with or without a family relationship who live in the same house or in the same part of the house, who share their meals, earnings and expenditures and who take part in the management of the household and who render services to the household.

27. For more information, see Eurostat: "Labour Force Survey results 2002", European Social Statistics, Detailed tables, 2003 and Eurostat: "Labour Force Survey in the Acceding Countries – Methods and definitions, 2002", Methods and nomenclatures, 2004.

2.3 Household Budget Survey (HBS)

28. The Household Budget Survey (HBS) gathers cross sectional data on Final Consumption Expenditure of non-collective private households.

29. These data are useful for the preparation of some indicators for the management of some politics at EU level, in particular Consumption, Employment and Social Protection, as well as to carry out research studies on consumption and living conditions.

30. Data are data available for three reference years:
- **1988** (10 Member States)
- **1994** (15 Member States and 2 EFTA countries)
- **1999** (15 Member States, 2 of them still pending, and 1 EFTA country)

31. These statistics have no legal basis, and therefore each Member State has its own targets, methodology and survey programming. Data supplied by the Member States are not perfectly harmonised. After each round, some harmonisation efforts have been carried out and each new round of data collection is better harmonised than the previous one. However, some problems of comparability among countries still remain. In order to assess the impact of these problems of comparability on data analyses, the following Eurostat publications may be consulted:

- *'Family Budget Surveys in the EC. Methodology and recommendations for harmonisation'* (ISBN 92-826-6193-8) for the reference year 1988

- *'Household Budget Surveys in the EU. Methodology and recommendations for harmonisation. 1997'* (ISBN 92-827-9805-4) for the reference year 1994

- *'Household Budget Surveys in the EU. Methodology and recommendations for harmonisation. 2003'* (ISBN 92-894-5435-0) for the reference year 1999

- *'Household Budget Survey in the Candidate Countries. Methodological analysis 2003'* (ISBN 92-894-7087-9) for the reference year 1999

Household concept

32. Although national concepts are used, Eurostat recommends that the definition of the household for the purpose of HBS should be based on the "housekeeping" concept with two criteria: co-residence and sharing of expenditures.

33. In all Household Budget surveys in the EU (except in France), the household is defined more or less as a *social* unit which meets one or more conditions of 'living together' in addition to having a common residence. This is the household defined as a housekeeping unit.

34. Definitions used by Member States are described in table 2 by showing the use of following 'sharing' criteria:

- (1) Co-residence (living together in the same dwelling unit)
- (2) Sharing of expenditures including joint provision of essentials of living
- (3) Pooling of income and resources
- (4) The existence of family or emotional ties

Table 2: Definition of household in the EU15 Member States

	Households defined as persons sharing:			
	accomodation	expenditure	income	family emotional ties
B	X	X		
DK	X	X	X	
D	X	X	X	
GR	X	X		
E	X	X		
F	X			
IRL	X	X		
I	X	X	X	X
L	X	X		
NL	X	X		
A	X	X		
P	X	X		
FIN	X	X	X	
S	X	X	X	
UK	X	X		

35. In all countries (except France), a household is defined as sharing one of more of the other three criteria, in addition to common residence.

36. In practice these rather succinct definitions need to be elaborated by specifying exactly which categories of persons are included and excluded from the definition. The definition adopted has a bearing, for instance, on whether or not resident employees, lodgers, boarders and other unrelated persons living at the sample address are included in the same or as a separate household. This affects the average household size and composition, as well as the coverage achieved in the survey. Furthermore, the definition is often extended to include certain categories of persons who are absent from the household for some specified reason, such as full-time education or military service. Countries differ in the exact rules applied for this purpose as well as the operational meaning given to the four criteria noted above. Many countries mention though, as general criteria, that a potential

member is included in the household if there are economic links between the person and the household. Table 3 tries to provide an overview of the main categories of persons included and excluded.

Table 3: Persons included as household members by residential status in the EU15 Member States

	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK
Normal resident, related to head/spouse	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	(15)	X	X(11)	X	X	X	X	X
Resident employee, domestic servant living in household						X	X			X(11)		X			
Resident border, tenant						X	X			X(11)		X			
Long term absentee present during recording period				X(2)		X				X(11)	X				
Visitor				X	X(3)							X			X(9)
Resident temporarily away		X	X	X(2)	X(4)	X	X		X	X(11)	X	X	X(7)	X	
Long term absence with household ties:															
- students, boarding school pupils	X(1)			X(2)	X(5)	X	X		X	X(11)	X	X	X(8)		X(10)
- hospitalised persons etc.	X(1)			X(2)	X(14)	X	X(13)		X(6)	X(12)	X	X	X		

- (1) Except if they are absent during the whole month of the survey
- (2) On condition that (a) they did not move to a private household, within Greece, (b) it was possible to provide a detailed record of their personal expenditures for at least eight days.
- (3) Only if he habitually lives in the household.
- (4) Only if he has economic links with the household.
- (5) Students: Only if he has economic links with the household and does not live with another household.
- (6) Persons in prisons are not counted as member of the household.
- (7) If they contribute to the household income.
- (8) Except if there are living away on own obtained grants.
- (9) If the stay in the household is for more than one month.
- (10) Students older than 16 years of age are not included if they are living away form the household at the time of interview.
- (11) Decisive for inclusion as household member is that the person is present in the household during a period that includes the intensive recording period and whether the start or the end of the survey year.
- (12) Hospitalised persons are household members if the hospitalisation period is shorter than 1 year.
- (13) If at home in the household during the period of the survey
- (14) In general, persons living in a collective dwelling are members of their household of origin, if they have economic links with it and they aim to return to it
- (15) Information not available

37. Corresponding information on the household concepts and persons included in the new Member States and Candidate Countries are presented in tables 4 and 5.

Table 4: Definition of the household in the new Member States and the Candidate Countries

Country	Household definition
Bulgaria	Persons living in a dwelling with common budget
Cyprus	Co-residence and sharing expenditures
Czech Republic	Same address, share housekeeping and living expenses
Estonia	Persons living at the same dwelling and using common financial resources
Hungary	Persons with common income sharing their current costs
Latvia	People tied by personal relationship, having common subsistence expenditures and inhabiting the same living unit
Lithuania	People tied with relationship or other personal bonds with common budget, sharing meals and living in one housing unit
Malta	According to Eurostat's recommendations
Poland	One-person household is defined as a self-sufficient person, i.e. not sharing his/ her income with any other person, whether living alone or not. Multi-person household is defined as a group of persons living together and sharing their income and expenditure.
Romania	Two or more persons living together and integrally or partially forming and using the income
Slovak Republic	Persons sharing a common dwelling and having common expenditure
Slovenia	Persons living together and sharing their income for covering expenditure
Turkey	The household is a group consisting of one or several persons, irrespective of the existence of a family tie among them, who live in the same house or a part of it and eating from the same kitchen, pooling their incomes and expenditures and participating the household services and management.

38. Eurostat recommends that the definition of the household for the purpose of HBS is based on the two following criteria: co-residence and sharing of expenditures. Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Malta and Slovak Republic follow the Eurostat recommendation. All the other countries mention other conditions such as sharing of income, existence of personal ties, etc.

Table 5: Definition of household membership in the new Member States and the Candidate Countries

	BG	CY	CZ	EE	HU	LV	LT	ML	PL	RO	SK	SI	TR
Normal resident, related to head/spouse	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Resident employee, domestic servant living in household	X	X		X				X		X		X	X
Resident border, tenant	X			X				X		X			X
Long term absentee present during recording period		X		X		X		X		X	X		X
Visitor				X						X			X
Resident temporarily away		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	
Long term absence with household ties:													
- students, boarding school pupils		X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X	
- hospitalised persons etc.		X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	

2.4 European Community Household Panel Survey (ECHP) and EU-SILC

39. The ECHP was launched in 1994 to produce harmonised longitudinal data on income and housing conditions in the EU. It was based on a gentlemen's agreement. The focus of the ECHP was on income inequality and relative monetary poverty. Data were presented at aggregate level, and with breakdowns according to various socio-demographic variables. The last wave of the ECHP was undertaken in 2001.

40. EU-SILC was introduced in 2003 as a replacement for the ECHP. Initially EU-SILC was undertaken on the basis of a gentlemen's agreement, but from 2004 it has been governed by a European Parliament and Council Regulation. As of 2005, all EU Member States are participating in EU-SILC, together with Norway and Iceland.

41. *In the ECHP, the household definition is as follows:*

At community level, a household is defined in terms of shared residence and common arrangements, as comprising either one person living alone or a group of persons, not necessarily related, living at the same address with common house-keeping - i.e. sharing a meal on most days or sharing a living or sitting room. Not all countries adhere strictly to this EU definition.

Persons currently residing in the household, persons temporarily institutionalised (health care establishment, full-time education, military service) or absent for work or travel are included in all countries. However, in Denmark, persons in health care establishments are excluded.

42. *For EU-SILC, the framework regulation (regulation No 1177/2003 of the EP and the Council) defines a 'private household':*

"private household" means a person living alone or a group of people who live together in the same private dwelling and share expenditures, including the joint provision of the essentials of living".

43. The Commission Regulation on the implementation of the EU-SILC ((EC) 1980/2003) gives detailed guidance on the delineation of household membership:

Household membership³

Subject to the further specific conditions shown below, the following persons must, if they share household expenses, be regarded as household members:

- 1) persons usually resident, related to other members;
- 2) persons usually resident, not related to other members;
- 3) resident boarders, lodgers, tenants;
- 4) visitors;

³ Those Member States using in EU-SILC the common household definition defined in their national statistical system, shall be allowed to define the 'household membership' according to that definition.

- 5) live-in domestic servants, au-pairs;
- 6) persons usually resident, but temporarily absent from the dwelling (for reasons of holiday travel, work, education or similar);
- 7) children of the household being educated away from home;
- 8) persons absent for long periods, but having household ties: persons working away from home;
- 9) persons temporarily absent but having household ties: persons in hospital, nursing homes or other institutions.

Further conditions for inclusion as household members are as follows:

(a) Categories 3, 4 and 5:

Such persons must currently have no private address elsewhere; or their actual or intended duration of stay must be six months or more.

(b) Category 6:

Such persons must currently have no private address elsewhere and their actual or intended duration of absence from the household must be less than six months.

(c) Categories 7 and 8:

Irrespective of the actual or intended duration of absence, such persons must currently have no private address elsewhere, must be the partner or child of a household member and must continue to retain close ties with the household and must consider this address to be his/her main residence.

(d) Category 9:

Such person must have clear financial ties to the household and must be actually or prospectively absent from the household for less than six months.

Shares in household expenses

This includes benefiting from expenses (e.g. children, persons with no income) as well as contributing to expenses. If expenses are not shared, then the person constitutes a separate household at the same address.

‘Usually resident’

A person shall be considered as a usually resident member of the household if he/she spends most of his/her daily rest there, evaluated over the past six months. Persons forming new households or joining

existing households shall normally be considered as members at their new location; similarly, those leaving to live elsewhere shall no longer be considered as members of the original household. The abovementioned 'past six months' criteria shall be replaced by the intention to stay for a period of six months or more at the new place of residence.

'Intention to stay for a period of six months or more'

Account has to be taken of what may be considered as 'permanent' movements in or out of households. Thus a person who has moved into a household for an indefinite period or with the intention to stay for a period of six months or more shall be considered as a household member, even though the person has not yet stayed in the household for six months, and has in fact spent a majority of that time at some other place of residence. Similarly, a person who has moved out of the household to some other place of residence with the intention of staying away for six months or more, shall no longer be considered as a member of the previous household.

'Temporarily absent in private accommodation'

If the person who is temporarily absent is in private accommodation, then whether he/she is a member of this (or the other) household depends on the length of the absence. Exceptionally, certain categories of persons with very close ties to the household may be included as members irrespective of the length of absence, provided they are not considered members of another private household.

In the application of these criteria, the intention is to minimise the risk that individuals who have two private addresses at which they might potentially be enumerated are not double-counted in the sampling frame.

Similarly, the intention is to minimise the risk of some persons being excluded from membership of any household, even though in reality they belong to the private household sector.

Appendix 1

Definition of households used in selected ECE countries in the 2000 census round

(Source: ECE Population Activity Unit)

Country	Household definition	Relationship codification
<p>Albania 2001</p> <p>Housekeeping Unit definition</p>	<p><i>A group of persons living together in one dwelling and who have a joint economy. The household may consist also of a single person. For census purposes, by household shall be understood also a group of persons who do not have any blood, marriage, affectionate, etc. relationship but who live together and have a joint economy</i></p>	<p>01- Head of household 02- Husband or wife 03- Factual partner of head (not actually married) 04- Natural-born son or daughter 05- Adopted/Step son or daughter 06- Father of mother 07- Father-in-law or mother-in-law 08- Brother or sister 09- Brother-in-law or sister-in-law 10- Son-in-law or daughter-in-law 11- Nephew or niece 12- Uncle or aunt 13- Other form of relative 14- No family relation</p>
<p>Austria 2001</p> <p>Housekeeping Unit definition</p>	<p><i>A household comprises a group of people living in the same housing unit with common housekeeping (...). A household can also comprise one person living alone.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Head of household or sole person in the household - Spouse of HH - Consensual union partner of HH - Daughter, son (step and adopted) - Spouse/partner of son/daughter - Grandchild or his/her spouse/partner - Mother, father (parent-in-law, step parent, grandparent) - Otherwise related (e.g. brother, aunt, nephew) - Not related
<p>Belgium 2001</p> <p>Household Dwelling definition</p>	<p><i>A household may consist of one person usually living alone or of two or more persons connected or not by family relationship, who normally live together in the same dwelling. People temporarily present at census time, like guests and invited people, are not considered part of the household.</i></p> <p><i>Temporarily absent persons (e.g. interns, people on holiday, business trip, at the hospital, etc.) are still considered members of the household and must fill the personal form.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spouse of the reference person - Child of the reference person and/or of his/her spouse - Consensual union partner of reference person - Partner's child - Other relative of the reference person - Other not related

Country	Household definition	Relationship codification
Bulgaria 2001 Housekeeping Unit definition	<p><i>Household is a socio-economic category, which combines people living together through the relations originating in the organization of their life-style and management of the housekeeping. Household are two or more persons who: 1. live together in one dwelling or a part of dwelling; 2. have a common budget; 3. take meals together, regardless of the fact that some of them may not have kinship ties to each other. A household may be only one person, who lives in a self contained dwelling (...), lives on a self dependent budget (...). Persons permanently living together in workers or student hostels are also considered as household. As collective households are accepted to be a group of people who live permanently in a collective, have a common budget, take meals together and are subordinated to a common regime. Unmarried children living with their parents are considered as member of the household of their parents, irrespective of their age. Divorced or widowed persons, living with their parents are considered member of the household only if their living together meets the requirements of household formation. Common budget is present when one or more members of the household use resources of the other members. (...)Persons who do not have common budget and do not have meals together do not form a household, irrespectively of the fact that they live together. When two or more families live in one dwelling they are counted separately.</i></p>	01- Head of household 02- Husband/wife 03- Son/daughter 04- Son/daughter in law 05- Grandchild/great grandchild 06- Parent of household head 07- Parent of husband/wife 08- Brother/sister of household head 09- Brother/sister of husband/wife 10- Grandparents 11- Other relative 12- Other person
Canada 2001 Household- Dwelling definition	<p><i>A household consists of a person or group of persons occupying one dwelling. It usually consists of a family group; however, it may consist of two or more families sharing a dwelling, a group of unrelated persons or one person living alone.</i></p>	12- Husband or wife of Person 1 13- Common-law partner (opposite sex) of Person 1 14- Common-law partner (same sex) of Person 1 15- Son or daughter of Person 1 16- Son-in-law or daughter-in-law of Person 1 17- Grandchild of Person 1 18- Father or mother of Person 1 19- Father/mother-in-law of Person 1 20- Brother or sister of Person 1 21- Brother/sister-in-law of Person 1 22- Lodger or boarder 23- Room-mate 24- Other - <i>Specify</i>

Country	Household definition	Relationship codification
<p>Croatia 2001</p> <p>Housekeeping Unit definition</p>	<p><i>A household is every family or other type of community of persons who live together and spend their income on basic existential needs (housing, food etc.), irrespective of whether all members reside in a settlement where the household has its place of usual residence or some of them temporarily reside in another settlement (...). A household is also every person living alone (one-person household) and not having a household in other settlements. That person could live either alone in a dwelling, or as a tenant or in a single-room occupancy etc., irrespective of whether he or she shares the room with another single person or with family members of a landlord, but does not spend his or her income on basic existential needs with them. A household also includes persons who attend school in the place of the Census and who are living in a marriage or cohabitation (for example, students' marriage). A household also include refugees residing in the place of the Census because of a war situation as well as persons without permanent address, who found themselves in the place of the Census at the Census moment. A household may consist of one or more family nuclei and, in addition, it may include members that do not belong to any family nucleus in a household. Also, there are households consisting of no family nuclei. Private households are divided in the following way: a. family households – those consisting of one or more family nuclei; b. non-family households, which are subdivided into one-person and multi-person households, consisting of brothers and sisters, grandmother, grandfather and grandchild etc., as well as of unrelated persons who spend their income on basic existential needs together. Institutional households comprise all persons who are provided for by a certain institution. Institution is, as a rule, a legal entity established with the intention to lengthily provide home and care to certain groups of persons. (...)</i></p>	<p>01- Reference person 02- Spouse of the reference person 03- Reference person's partner in consensual union (cohabitant) 04- Child of the reference person and/or of spouse/cohabitant 05- Child of reference person only 06- Child of reference person spouse/cohabitant 07- Spouse or cohabitant of child of reference person 08- Father or mother of ref. person 09- Father or mother of spouse or of cohabitant of reference person 10- Grandfather or grandmother of reference person or of spouse or cohabitant of reference person 11- Brother/sister of ref. person 12- Grandchild of ref. person and/or of spouse or cohabitant of ref. person 13- Other relative of ref. person or of spouse or cohabitant of ref. person 14- Non-relative of reference person or the household 88- Other person not member of a household</p>
<p>Czech Republic 2001</p> <p>Housekeeping Unit definition</p>	<p><i>Household = Persons in common housekeeping. Common housekeeping means that main costs of the household (food, living costs, operational costs and others) are paid for jointly.</i></p>	<p>Relationship is identified within the people resident in the dwelling. There is no tabulation for the type of relationship. In a further question, it is requested to specify the sequence number of the persons belonging to the dwelling who live in common housekeeping (no relationship is identified).</p>

Country	Household definition	Relationship codification
<p>England & Wales 2001</p> <p>Housekeeping Unit definition</p>	<p><i>A household comprises one person living alone, or a group of people (not necessarily related) living at the same address with common housekeeping – that is, sharing either a living room or sitting room or at least one meal a day.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Husband or wife - Partner - Son/daughter - Step-child - Sister/brother - Mother, father - Step-mother, step-father - Grandchild - Grandparent - Other related - Unrelated
<p>Estonia 2000</p> <p>Housekeeping Unit definition</p>	<p><i>Persons who live together and are linked by a common use of all available household facilities form a household (shared budget and shared food). A person living alone is also considered a household. Relationship or kinship between household members is not necessarily required. (...) Persons in social welfare, health care, recreational, penal and other institutions and in military service and who have their meals provided by the institution form an institutional household.</i></p>	<p>V- reference person E- partner (legal spouse or partner in consensual union) L- son/daughter of reference person or his/her partner P- parent (or parent's partner) of the reference person or his/her partner W- grandparent of the reference person or his/her partner T- grandchild of the reference person or his/her partner S- other relative of the reference person or his/her partner X- person who is neither a relative of the ref. person nor his/her partner</p>
<p>Finland 2000</p> <p>Household- Dwelling definition</p>	<p><i>A household-dwelling unit consists of the permanent occupants of a dwelling (...). The concept of household-dwelling was adopted in the 1980 census. In earlier years the concept of household was used. A household consisted of family members and other persons living together who made common provision for food. A subtenant providing for his/her own food constituted a separate household. Since 1980 subtenants have been classified in the same household-dwelling units with other occupants.</i></p>	
<p>France 1999</p> <p>Household- Dwelling definition</p>	<p><i>The definition of household corresponds to the concept of 'household-dwelling'. The household is made up by all the occupants of the same dwelling (main residence), regardless of the relationships among them. A household can be made up by one person only and it includes also the people who are temporarily absent (students in colleges, soldiers etc.) but keep their main residence in the census dwelling. Therefore the number of households is the same as the number of conventional dwellings. The mobile homes (including sailing boats) do not belong to the conventional dwelling. People living in</i></p>	<p>There is no codification. The answer to the question concerning the relationship to the reference person is open.</p>

Country	Household definition <i>houses for the elderly belong to the dwelling population.</i>	Relationship codification
FYROM 2002 Housekeeping Unit definition	<p><i>A household is considered each family or other community of persons who will state that they are living together and spend their incomes together, for payment of basic living needs (living, food etc.), no matter whether all the members are permanently in the place where the household is settled, or some of them for a certain period of time stay in another place, i.e. foreign country, because of their job, school or other reasons.</i></p> <p><i>A household is also considered each person who in the place of the census lives alone (single-person household) and does not have his/her own household on another place. Single-person household may live in separated or divided dwelling, or as a single-subtenant, or in a hotel for singles or similar, no matter whether he/she lives in the same room with another single, or with the landlord household members, not spending his/her income with them.</i></p> <p><i>A 'collective household' is composed of persons who live in institutions of permanent care (...). The household may be family or non-family. A family household may consist of one or more family nucleuses plus other persons who do not belong to any family nucleus. Non-family household is a household without family nucleus (...).</i></p>	01- Reference person 02- Husband/wife 03- Female/male partner in consensual union 04- Son/daughter or adopted child 05- Mother, father 06- Mother/father in law 07- Grandson/granddaughter 08- Son/daughter in law 09- Grandmother/grandfather 10- Sister/brother 11- Other relatives 12- Non relatives 13- Person does not belong to the household

Country	Household definition	Relationship codification	
Georgia 2002	<p><i>A household is (..) a group of people observing common rules of co-existence and nourishment and bound with a common budget (or a part thereof) that may be consanguine or non-consanguine or both. The households may be private or collective. A private household is: - a family household that maybe made up of an independently living person or a group of persons living at a common dwelling place, have common meals and budget (..) and are consanguine or non-consanguine or both. In this regard, the following should be taken into consideration: - a person renting a lodging from a citizen is not the latter's household member and is regarded as a separate household; - a person living on a permanent basis at a hostel, a hotel, a boarding-house, must be census registered as a separate household; - a personnel member of an institution living therein (i.e. orphanage, infant's house, hospital for the chronically ill) must be census registered as a separate household; a person without a defined place of residence (a homeless) shall be considered and census registered as a separate household. The collective households are made up of the persons - permanent residents of the infant-houses, the orphanages, the boarding schools (...) i.e. groups of the population living together and commonly pursuing the common objectives, observe common rules and have meals together (except for the personnel). If several households reside at a dwelling place, then all the members of one of the households should be registered first, then all the members of the other household should be registered, etc.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1- First person 2- Spouse 3- Son/daughter 4- Mother, father 5- Sister/brother 6- Son/daughter in law 7- Mother/father in law 8- Grandmother/grandfather 9- Grandson/granddaughter 10- Other relatives 11- No relationship 	
Housekeeping Unit definition			
Ireland 2002	<p><i>A private household comprises either one person living alone or a group of people (not necessarily related) living at the same address with common housekeeping arrangements – that is, sharing at least one meal a day or sharing a living or sitting room.</i></p>	Present person	Temporarily absent person
Housekeeping Unit definition		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Husband/wife 2- Partner 3- Son/daughter 4- Father/mother 5- Son/daughter in law 6- Father/mother in law 7- Other related (specify) 8- Unrelated (including foster children) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1- Husband/wife 2- Partner 3- Son/daughter 7- Other related (specify) 8- Unrelated (including foster children)

Country	Household definition	Relationship codification
<p>Italy 2001</p> <p>Housekeeping Unit definition</p>	<p><i>The term household refers to a group of people, bound by marriage, kinship, affinity, adoption, guardianship or by emotional ties, who are partners and live in the same Municipality (even if not yet registered in the Population Register of that municipality). A household may also be composed of one individual only.</i></p> <p><i>If more than one household live together in the same lodging on a regular basis, each of them must fill in a Household form.</i></p> <p>N.B.: The Italian version of the census forms uses the term 'famiglia' (family), which is translated into 'household' in the English guide to the census.</p>	<p>01- Holder of the Household form 02- Holder's spouse 03- Holder's partner 04- Holder's and spouse/partner's son/daughter 05- Son/daughter of householder only 06- Son/daughter of spouse/partner only 07- Holder's father/mother (or parent's spouse) 08- Holder's father/mother-in-law 09- Holder's brother/sister 10- Holder spouse/partner's brother/sister 11- Spouse of the Holder's brother/sister or of the spouse/partner's brother/sister 12- Son/daughter-in-law (spouse or partner of the son/daughter) of the Holder and/or of the spouse/partner 13- Grandchild of the Holder and/or of the spouse/partner 14- Niece/nephew of the Holder and/or of the spouse/partner 15- Other relative of the Holder and/or of spouse/partner 16- Other person without ties of kinship</p>
<p>Lithuania 2001</p> <p>Housekeeping Unit definition</p>	<p><i>The household is either a group of persons living together who have a common budget and make common provisions for food, or one person living alone. Members of a multi-person household need not to be related by birth or marriage.</i></p> <p>In the list of residents of the dwelling households are entered in the column 'Household No.' and each household is given a separate number.</p>	<p>1- Reference person 2- Husband/wife 3- Cohabitant 4- Son/daughter of reference person or of his/her spouse/partner 5- Father/mother 6- Father/mother in law 7- Brother/sister 8- Son/daughter in law 9- Grandparent 10- Grandchild 11- Other relative 12- Non-relative</p>

Country	Household definition	Relationship codification
Luxembourg 2001	<i>A household can consist of one person living alone, or two or more persons, with or without family ties, who usually live in the same dwelling and lead a common life. Persons temporarily absent on census day are still considered part of the household. Domestic staff, employees and workers who live with their employer, are part of the household if they do not return to their household at least once a week.</i>	2- Reference person's spouse/partner 3- Son/daughter (stepson/daughter) 4- Grandchild/great-grandchild 5- Father/mother (stepfather/mother) 6- Other relative 7- Non-relative
Household- Dwelling definition		
Malta 1995	<i>The household may be classified as being either private or institutional. In turn private households may be further sub-divided into either one-person or multi-person households. (...) A private one-person household refers to a person who either lives alone in a separate housing unit or who occupies, as a lodger, a separate room (or rooms) of a housing unit but does not join with or share any of the available facilities with any of the occupants of the housing unit. A private multi-person household refers to a group of two or more, related and/or unrelated persons and including boarders, who combine to occupy the whole or part of a housing unit and to provide themselves with food and possibly other essentials for living. The group may pool their income to a greater or lesser extent. (...) An institutional household refers to groups of person living together who usually share their meals, are bound by common objectives and who generally subject to common rules. (...)</i>	2- Husband/wife of person 1 3- Unmarried partner of person 1 4- Son/daughter (stepson/daughter) of person 1 5- Adopted child of person 1 6- Father/mother of person 1 7- Son/daughter-in-law of person 1 8- Father/mother-in-law of person 1 9- Brother/sister of person 1 10- Brother/sister-in-law of person 1 11- Grandchild of person 1 12- Fostered child of person 1 13- Other relative of person 1 14- Not related to person 1
Housekeeping Unit definition		
Norway 2001	<i>A household consists of persons that are permanently resident in the same dwelling (housing unit) or institution. Such a household is called a dwelling household. Census 2001 does not supply any information about housekeeping units i.e. persons living in the same dwelling with joint board. A private household comprises persons resident in the same dwelling where this dwelling is not an institution (...). Census 2001 does not provide any statistics for institutional households, however the number of persons not living in private households are given...</i>	
Household- Dwelling definition		
Portugal	<i>A private household is: -an independent person who occupies a part or the totality of a lodging; -a group of people living in the same lodging and having de jure or de facto relations, who occupy the totality or part of the lodging. In a private household are also included: - the individuals who do not have</i>	01- Reference person 02- Spouse 03- Son/daughter not married 04- Son/daughter married 05- Foster son/daughter not married 06- Foster son/daughter married

Country	Household definition	Relationship codification
<p>2001</p> <p>Housekeeping Unit definition</p>	<p><i>blood relations with the family but live in the same dwelling and share its food or income; - the employees and domestic staff, if they do not return every week (or almost every week) to their household residence.</i></p> <p><i>A group of two or more people not family related who share a lodging will not be considered a private household as a whole, since each of them makes up a one-person household living in the dwelling (...).</i></p> <p><i>N.B.: the original (Portuguese) version of the questionnaires uses the term 'familia classica' (classic family), which is translated in English with 'household'. A further concept of 'nucleo familiar' (family nucleus) is introduced to identify the members of a household linked by specific blood relations.</i></p>	<p>07- Stepson/daughter not married</p> <p>08- Stepson/daughter married</p> <p>09- Father/mother</p> <p>10- Father/mother-in-law</p> <p>11- Son/daughter-in-law</p> <p>12- Brother/sister</p> <p>13- Grandson/daughter or great-grandson/daughter</p> <p>14- Grandfather/mother or great-grandfather/mother</p> <p>15- Other relative person</p> <p>16- Domestic servant</p> <p>17- Other</p>
<p>Russian Fed.</p> <p>2002</p> <p>Housekeeping Unit definition</p>	<p><i>A household means: - one person living in a separate housing unit or part of thereof who provides himself/herself with all the necessities of life and does not pool resources for maintaining joint household with any other person residing in the same housing unit. – two or more persons living together in a separate housing unit or part thereof and providing themselves with all the necessities of life by maintaining joint household, partially or completely pooling and spending their resources. Such persons may or may not be blood relatives or related by marriage or constitute a combination of persons both related and unrelated.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - First enumerated person - Husband - wife - Son/daughter - Father/ mother - Brother/sister - Father/mother-in-law - Son/daughter in law - Grandfather/mother - Grandson/daughter - Other relative - Non-relative person
<p>Slovenia</p> <p>2002</p> <p>Household dwelling definition</p>	<p><i>In the household questionnaire there seems to be no distinction between household and dwelling. At the same time, the number of families in the household is identified. On the other hand, in the dwelling questionnaire an explicit reference to the number of households present in the dwelling is made.</i></p>	

Country	Household definition	Relationship codification
Spain 2001	<p><i>Household: group of people living in the same family dwelling. With respect to 1991, the condition that all members have to share some common expenses has been eliminated, as it was considered too difficult to apply in practice and it could lead to discrepancies with the results of other surveys. Furthermore, the number of dwellings where more than one household was present, was very small.</i></p> <p><i>Family dwelling: dwelling that can be inhabited by one or several people, generally but not necessarily linked by kinship, and that does not constitute collective dwelling.</i></p> <p><i>The term 'family' referred to a dwelling does not mean that its inhabitants are always family related to each other. To be exact it would be necessary to use the word 'household' instead of a family, but it has been preferred to maintain the traditional denomination to avoid the idea that the concept is changed, which is not the case.</i></p> <p><i>The concepts of family (group of people living in the same dwelling related by blood relationships) and of family nucleus (restricted family, limited to parents and children) are also introduced.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spouse/partner - Son/daughter; son/daughter-in-law - Brother/sister; brother/sister-in-law - Father/mother; father/mother-in-law - Other relative - Not related
United States 2000	<p><i>A household includes all the people who occupy a housing unit as their usual place of residence. Households are classified by type according to the sex of the householder and the presence of relatives. Examples include: married-couple family; male householder, no wife present; female householder, no husband present; spouse (husband/wife); child; and other relatives.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wife/husband - Natural-born son/daughter - Adopted son/daughter - Stepson/daughter - Sister/brother - Father/mother - Grandchild - Parent-in-law - Son/daughter-in-law - Other relative (specify) <p>If NOT RELATED to Person 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roomer, boarder - Housemate, roommate - Unmarried partner - Foster child - Other non-relative
